

Message Text

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ORIGIN DOE-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /112 R

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APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES
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EB/ORF/FSE:PBULLEN (SUBS)
NEA/AFN:JKBISHOP

-----026154 291229Z /12

R 282235Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

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FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG AG

SUBJECT: STATUS OF ALGERIAN LNG IMPORT CASES

REF: ALGIERS 3171

1. ON OCTOBER 1, 1977, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) WAS ORGANIZED. SOME OF THE FUNCTIONS FORMERLY ADMINISTERED BY THE FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION (FPC) WERE ASSUMED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ACT, THE FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION, WOULD TRANSFER PENDING ACTIONS TO THE DOE FOR A FINAL DECISION AFTER SATISFYING CERTAIN ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIRE-
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MENTS. AS A RESULT, THE DOE RECEIVED THE ALGERIAN LNG IMPORT CASE IN LATE NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

2. DOE IS FULLY AWARE OF THE DECEMBER 31, 1977 DATE ON WHICH EXISTING CONTRACTS FOR LNG EXPIRE. THIS DATE WAS ADOPTED BY THE FPC AS AN ADMINISTRATIVELY IMPORTANT DEAD-LINE FOR DECISION OF THESE CASES.

3. "EX PARTE" LEGAL REGULATIONS PRECLUDE DOE OFFICIALS FROM DISCUSSING THE MERITS OR STATUS OF PENDING CASES WHICH ARE BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT,

HOWEVER, IS FULLY AWARE OF THE NEED FOR TIMELY DECISIONS ON THESE CASES AND IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A THOROUGH CASE-BY-CASE REVIEW OF THE EL PASO II, TENNECO AND DISTRIGAS IMPORT PROPOSALS.

4. YOU MAY WISH TO INFORM THE GOA THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS AWARE OF THE NEED FOR TIMELY DECISIONS BUT FOR LEGAL REASONS IS NOT AT LIBERTY TO DISCUSS THE MERITS OR STATUS OF INDIVIDUAL CASES WHICH ARE UNDER REVIEW BY THE DOE.

5. FYI: FINAL DECISIONS ON THE EL PASO II, TENNECO AND DISTRIGAS PROPOSALS WILL BE ADDRESSED IN THE CONTEXT OF ONGOING INTER-AGENCY LNG POLICY REVIEW (A PUBLIC HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 4, 1978 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.) AND ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO SECURE PASSAGE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NATURAL ENERGY LEGISLATION, INCLUDING A MIDDLE GAS PRICE. ALTHOUGH A FINAL DETERMINATION OF THE PENDING IMPORT PROPOSALS IS RELATED TO THE ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS, THE DOE INTENDS TO AVOID UNDUE DELAY IN THE REVIEW PROCESS.
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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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